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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: H. NOMURA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2851

Appl. No.:

P20211.A02

09/774,111

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed

January 31, 2001

For

LENS BARRIER OPENING/CLOSING DEVICE OF A MOVABLE LENS

BARREL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to an examination of the above-identified patent application, the respectfully requested to amend the specification and claims, as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows (a marked-up copy is attached at the end of this document):

Page 65, lines 5-24, delete in their entirety and substitute the following therefor:-

---Specifically, in the present embodiment of the lens barrier opening/closing device, the upper front barrier blade 27c1 of the front pair of barrier blades 27c and the upper rear barrier blade 27d1 of the rear pair of barrier blades 27d are pivoted at corresponding one of

